Claims

What is claimed is:

1   **1.** A visitor pass system for managing visitor's entry and departure through a

2   communication network, comprising:

3   a visit data storing means for storing visit data of a visitor;

4   an input and output means for entering appointment data and transmitting the

5   appointment data to the visit data storing means through the communication network

6   to store the data therein;

7   an identification data reading means for reading identification data from

8   identification means of the visitor;

9   a visitor identifying means for identifying the visitor on the basis of the

10   identification data and preparing visitor's data; and,

11   a visitor's data transmitting means for transmitting the visitor's data to the visit

12   data storing means through the communication network to store the visitor's data

13   therein.

1   2.   A visitor pass system for managing visitor's entry and departure through a

2   communication network, comprising:

3   a visit data storing means for storing visit data of a visitor;

4   an input and output means for entering appointment data and transmitting the

5   appointment data to the visit data storing means through the communication network

6   to store the data therein;

7   an identification data reading means for reading identification data from

8   identification means of the visitor;

9   a visitor identifying means for identifying the visitor on the basis of the

10   identification data and preparing visitor's data;

11   an appointment data retrieving means for retrieving appointment data related to

12   the visitor's data from the visit data storing means through the communication

13   network; and,

14   an arrival notification data transmitting means for transmitting data to notify the

15   visitor's arrival to the input and output means through the communication network.

1   3.   A visitor pass system for managing visitor's entry and departure through a

2   communication network, comprising:

3   a visit data storing means for storing visit data of a visitor;

4   an input and output means for entering appointment data and transmitting the

5   appointment data to the visit data storing means through the communication network

6   to store the data therein;

7   an identification data reading means for reading identification data from

8   identification means of the visitor;

9   a visitor identifying means for identifying the visitor on the basis of the

10   identification data and preparing visitor's data;

11   appointment data retrieving means for retrieving appointment data related to

12   the visitor's data from the visit data storing means through the communication

13   network; and,

14   a permit data output means for outputting permit data when the appointment

15   data related to the visitor's data is found.

1   4.   The visitor pass system according to claim 1, further comprising:

2   appointment data retrieving means for retrieving appointment data related to

3   the visitor's data from the visit data storing means through the communication

4   network; and, arrival notification data transmitting means for transmitting data to

5   notify the visitor's arrival to the input and output means through the communication

6   network.

1   5.   The visitor pass system according to claim 2, further comprising:

2   permit data output means for outputting permit data when the appointment

3   data related to the visitor's data is found.

1   6.   The visitor pass system according to claim 3, wherein said identification data

2   reading means includes first and second identification data reading means.

1   7.   The visitor pass system according to claim 6, wherein said identification means

2   includes a business card and at least said second identification data reading means

3   includes a business card reader for reading characters provided on a visitor's business

4   card as the identification data.

1   8.   The visitor pass system according to claim 7, wherein said identification means

2   includes a bar code and at least said first identification data reading means includes a

3   bar code reader.

1   9.   The visitor pass system according to claim 8, wherein said bar code is provided

2   on a staff's business card of the visitor.

1   10.   The visitor pass system according to claim 8, wherein said visitor identifying

2   means includes number entering means and said appointment data retrieving means

3   retrieves appointment data related to the number entered into the number entering

4   means when there is no appointment data related to visitor's data prepared on the basis

5   of a bar code read by the bar code reader.

1   11.   The visitor pass system according to claim 9, wherein said visitor identifying

2   means includes number entering means and said appointment data retrieving means

3   retrieves appointment data related to the number entered into the number entering

4   means when there is no appointment data related to visitor's data prepared on the basis

5   of a bar code read by the bar code reader.

1   12.   The visitor pass system according to claim 6, further comprising permit data

2   output controlling means for allowing the permit data output means to output permit

3   data when there is appointment data related to visitor's data prepared on the basis of

4   identification data read by the second identification data reading means.

1   13.   The visitor pass system according to claim 2, wherein said arrival notification

2   data transmitting means transmits arrival notification data to the input and output

3   means through the communication network when the appointment data related to the

4   visitor's data is found.

1   14.   The visitor pass system according to claim 4, wherein said arrival notification

2   data transmitting means transmits arrival notification data to the input and output

3   means through the communication network when the appointment data related to the

4   visitor's data is found.

15.   The visitor pass system according to claim 3, wherein said permit data is entry

permit data or departure permit data.

16.   The visitor pass system according to claim 5, wherein said permit data is entry

permit data or departure permit data.

1   17.   The visitor pass system according to claim 3, wherein said system is capable of

2   providing an instruction to transmit the permit data from the input and output means

3   to the permit data output means through the communication network.

1   18.   The visitor pass system according to claim 5, wherein said system is capable of

2   providing an instruction to transmit the permit data from the input and output means

3   to the permit data output means through the communication network.

1   19.   The visitor pass system according to claim 3, wherein said permit data is

2   provided on a card.

1   20.   The visitor pass system according to claim 5, wherein said permit data is

2   provided on a card.

21.   The visitor pass system according to claim 19, further comprising means for

unlocking or opening a gate by recognizing the permit data provided on the card.

1   22.   A visitor pass method for managing visitor's entry and departure through a

2   communication network, comprising the steps of:

3   (a) transmitting appointment data to the visit data storing means through the

4   communication network to store the data therein, said appointment data entered into

5   input and output means by a staff;

6   (b) reading identification data from identification means of a visitor by

7   identification data reading means;

8   (c) identifying the visitor on the basis of the identification data and preparing

9   visitor's data by visitor identifying means; and

10   (d) transmitting the visitor's data to visit data storing means through the

11   communication network by visitor' s data transmitting means to store the data therein.

1   23.   A visitor pass method for managing visitor's entry and departure through a

2   communication network, comprising the steps of:

3   (a) transmitting appointment data to the visit data storing means through the

4   communication network to store the data therein, said appointment data entered into

5   input and output means by a staff;

6   (b) reading identification data from identification means of a visitor by

7   identification data reading means;

8   (c) identifying the visitor on the basis of the identification data and preparing

9   visitor's data by visitor identifying means;

10   (d) retrieving appointment data related to the visitor's data from the visit data

11   storing means through the communication network by appointment data retrieving

12   means; and

13   (e) transmitting data to notify the visitor's arrival to the input and output means

14   through the communication network by arrival notification data transmitting means.

1   24.   A visitor pass method for managing visitor's entry and departure through a

2   communication network, comprising the steps of:

3   (a) transmitting appointment data to the visit data storing means through the

4   communication network to store the data therein, said appointment data entered into

5   input and output means by a staff;

6   (b) reading identification data from identification means of a visitor by

7   identification data reading means;

8   (c) identifying the visitor on the basis of the identification data and preparing

9   visitor's data by visitor identifying means;

10   (d) retrieving appointment data related to the visitor's data from the visit data

11   storing means through the communication network by appointment data retrieving

12   means; and,

13   (e) outputting permit data by permit data output means when the appointment

14   data related to the visitor's data is found.

1   25.   A visitor pass program for managing visitor's entry and departure through a

2   communication network, comprising instructions for causing a computer to perform

3   the steps of:

4   reading identification data from identification means of a visitor;

5   identifying the visitor on the basis of the identification data and preparing visitor's

6   data; and

7   transmitting the visitor's data to visit data storing means for storing visitor's visit

8   data through the communication network to store the data therein.

26.   A visitor pass program for managing visitor's entry and departure through a

communication network, comprising instructions for causing a computer to perform

the steps of:

       transmitting appointment data entered by a staff to visit data storing means for

storing visitor's visit data through the communication network to store the data therein;

reading identification data from identification means of a visitor;

7   identifying the visitor on the basis of the identification data and preparing

8   visitor's data;

9   retrieving appointment data related to the visitor's data from the visit data

10   storing means through the communication network; and

11   transmitting data to notify the visitor's arrival to the input and output means through

12   the communication network.

1   27.   A visitor pass program for managing visitor's entry and departure through a

2   communication network, comprising instructions for causing a computer to perform

3   the steps of:

4   transmitting appointment data entered by a staff to visit data storing means for

5   storing visitor's visit data through the communication network to store the data therein;

6   reading identification data from identification means of a visitor;

7   identifying the visitor on the basis of the identification data and prepare visitor's

8   data;

9   retrieving appointment data related to the visitor's data from the visit data

10   storing means through the communication network; and

11   outputting permit data when the appointment data related to the visitor's data is

12   found.